



St Aidan's Church, Gillamoor



St Mary's Church, Farndale

SURPRISE VIEW

DECEMBER 2021 JANUARY 2022



All Saints' Church, Kirkbymoorside

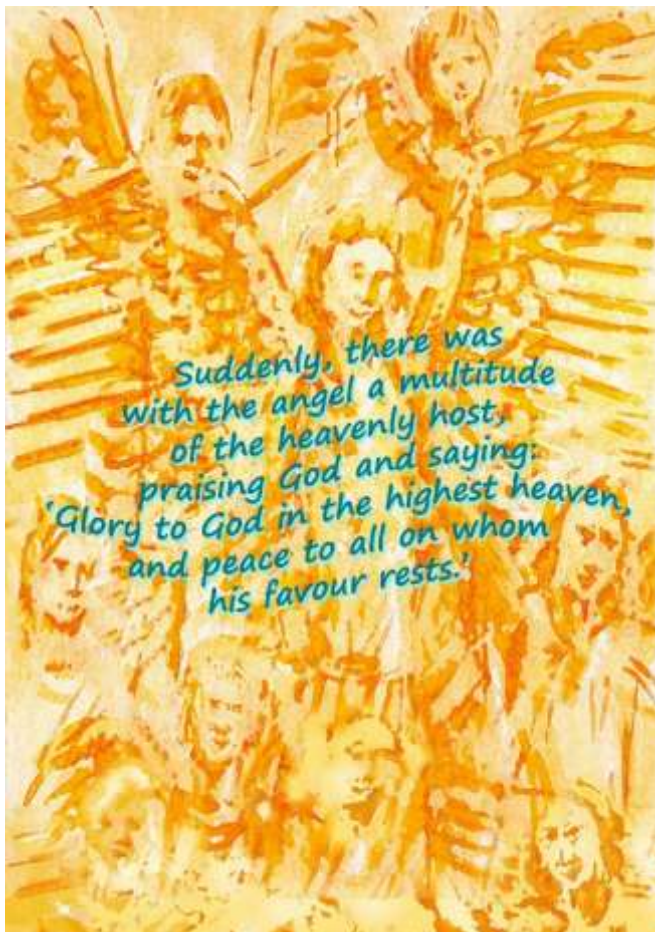
**THE CHURCH MAGAZINE OF
KIRKBYMOORSIDE – GILLAMOOR
FADMOOR - FARNDALE - BRANSDALE - EDSTONE**



St Nicholas' Church, Bransdale



St Michael's Church, Edstone



FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals: *We pray for the family and friends of:*

- | | | |
|------------------|-----|---|
| 21 st | Oct | Memorial Service for Jeffrey Featherstone at All Saints'
Anne Bull (78) at St Mary's |
| 27 th | Oct | Peter Stockdale (86) at All Saints' |
| 1 st | Nov | Stephen Sleightholme (66) at All Saints' |
| 2 nd | Nov | Michael Haste (63) at St Nicholas |
| 4 th | Nov | Patrick Crawley at St Aidan's |
| 11 th | Nov | Robert Charles William Sleightholme (71) at All Saints' |

JUST A THOUGHT

The birth of Jesus, the coming of light into darkness, offers the world hope.

For so many people across the world, 2021 has been a year of pain and loss, struggle and uncertainty. And looking ahead into 2022, much of this may continue.

Nevertheless, as we prepare and gather together for Christmas, we share once again the story of God on earth. Through music and song, through word and tradition, through gathering and feasting, God's love is once again remembered and celebrated.

Just as on that first evening in Bethlehem, God's light brings together all kinds of folk – rich and poor, young and old, men, women, children, animals and angels.

Now, as then, the world knows war and famine, political corruption, and self-interest. We face uncertain times with climate change and coronavirus in our midst.

Yet, it is into this world, *into our world*, that God comes.

Into our world he comes to bring 'good news to the poor', 'sight to the blind' and hope to us all. Love is born once again, and through love worlds can change.

May the peace and love and hope of God, be yours this Christmas.

Mark



DECEMBER'S SERVICES IN ALL SAINTS'

- 5 **Second Sunday of Advent:**
10:30am Parish Eucharist: The Revd. Bridget Gillespie
Readers: Brenda Hewitt Malachi 3.1-4
Revd. Bridget Gillespie Luke 3.1-6 
- 12 **Third Sunday of Advent:**
10:30am Morning Praise: The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan
Reader: Katrina Lane Luke 3.7-18
- 19 **Fourth Sunday of Advent:**
10:30am Parish Eucharist: The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan
Readers: Abi Pollard Micah 5.2-5a
The Vicar Luke 1.39-45[46-55] 
- 21 **7:00pm Nine Lessons and Carols**
- 24 **Christmas Eve:**
5:00pm Crib Service
11:30pm Midnight Communion: The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan /
The Revd. Bridget Gillespie
Readers: Les Clarke Isaiah 52.7-10
Clare Haynes Hebrews 1.1-4
The Vicar John 1.1-14 
- 25 **Christmas Day:**
10:30am Christmas Family Communion: The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan
Readers: Linda Wilson Isaiah 9.2-7
The Vicar Luke 2.1-14 
- 26 **THERE IS NO SERVICE TODAY**

If you are unable to fulfill your reading duty, please contact Anne Warriner.

PLEASE NOTE: There will a Retiring Collection for 'CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS' at the Sunday services in December.

SERVICES IN SAINT AIDAN'S, GILLAMOOR

- 19 **8:45am Holy Communion:** The Revd. Bridget Gillespie
24 **7:30pm Christmas Communion:** The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan

SERVICES IN SAINT NICHOLAS' BRANSDALE

- 5 **2:30pm Holy Communion:** The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan
23 **6:30pm Carol Service:** The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan/
The Revd. Bridget Gillespie

JANUARY

- 2 **2:30pm Holy Communion:** The Revd. Bridget Gillespie

SERVICES IN SAINT MARY'S, FARNSDALE

- 12 **2:30pm Holy Communion:** The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan
24 **4:00pm Crib Service:** Shirley-Ann Collier
7:30pm Christmas Family Communion: The Revd. Bridget Gillespie

SERVICES IN SAINT MICHAEL'S, GT. EDSTONE

- 5 **11:00am Morning Praise with Christingle:** The Vicar the Revd.
Mark Brosnan
19 **4:00pm Carol Service (In memory of Dennis Mayes):**
The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan/the Revd. Bridget Gillespie
25 **10:00am Christmas Family Communion:** The Revd. Bridget Gillespie

Holy Communion (BCP) each Wednesday at 10:00am
in the Lady Chapel All Saints' Church

Anyone wishing to receive Communion in their own
home please contact the Vicar, the Revd. Mark Brosnan

JANUARY'S SERVICES IN ALL SAINTS'

- 2 **Feast of The Epiphany:**
10:30am Parish Eucharist: The Revd. Bridget Gillespie
Readers: Lynn Goslin
 Revd. Bridget Gillespie Isaiah 60.1-6
 Matthew 2.1-12
- 9 **Baptism of Christ, First Sunday of Epiphany:**
10:30am Morning Praise: The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan /
 The Revd. Bridget Gillespie
Reader: Barbara Hodgson Luke 3.15-17,21-22
- 16 **Second Sunday of Epiphany:**
10:30am Parish Eucharist: The Revd. Bridget Gillespie
Readers: Brenda Hewitt Isaiah 62.1-5
 Revd. Bridget Gillespie John 2.1-11
- 23 **Third Sunday of Epiphany:**
10.30am Parish Eucharist: The Revd. Bridget Gillespie
Readers: Katrina Lane Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10
 Revd. Bridget Gillespie Luke 4.14-21
- 30 **Presentation of Christ in the Temple:**
10:30am Parish Eucharist: The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan
Readers: Abi Pollard Malachi 3.1-5
 The Vicar Luke 2.22-40



**AS THIS IS THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
THIS IS THE ONLY SERVICE IN THE PARISH**

FEBRUARY

- 6 **Fourth Sunday before Lent:**
10:30am Parish Eucharist: The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan
Readers: Linda Wilson Isaiah 6.1-8
 The Vicar Luke 5.1-11



If you are unable to fulfill your reading duty, please contact Anne Warriner.

SERVICES IN SAINT AIDAN'S, GILLAMOOR

16 8:45am Holy Communion: The Revd. Bridget Gillespie

SERVICES IN SAINT NICHOLAS' BRANSDALE

2 2:30pm Holy Communion: The Revd. Bridget Gillespie

FEBRUARY

6 2:30pm Holy Communion: The Revd. Bridget Gillespie

SERVICES IN SAINT MARY'S, FARNDALE

9 2:30pm Holy Communion: The Vicar the Revd. Mark Brosnan/
The Revd. Bridget Gillespie

23 2:30pm Prayer and Praise: Shirley-Ann Collier

SERVICES IN SAINT MICHAEL'S, GT. EDSTONE

2 11:00am Morning Praise: Members of Edstone

16 11:00am Holy Communion: The Revd. Christine Haddon-Reece

Holy Communion (BCP) each Wednesday at 10:00am
in the Lady Chapel All Saints' Church

Anyone wishing to receive Communion in their own
home please contact the Vicar, the Revd. Mark Brosnan



ADVENT COMPLINE

Each Wednesday evening at 7.00pm during Advent (Dec.1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd), there will be a Service of Compline held via Zoom.

Please contact Katrina if you wish to have details sent to you.

Mark



STUDY DAY

This will now take place on Saturday February 12th at The Bowling Club.

The day begins with tea/coffee from 9.30am and ends at 1.00pm. Please feel free to bring a packed lunch and stay on for food.

We will be exploring the areas of Children and Young Families, Discipleship and Pastoral Care, and how we can shape our response in the months ahead.

All are welcome!

Mark



NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE

This year's Town Carol Service organised by 'Churches Together in Kirkbymoorside' will take place in All Saints' at 7pm on Tuesday 21st December. The collection this year will go to help Ryedale Carers.

This has always been a wonderful way to start Christmas, so please come along and join us.



HELP!!



Is there anyone out there who could take on delivering the Surprise Views in West Pasture. If you can help, please can you ring me on 432915.

Anne Warriner

NEWS FROM ST. MARY'S, FARNDALE

We gathered around the war memorial at St. Mary's on Nov 14th to remember those from Farndale and Bransdale who lost their lives in battle for their country and future generations. We think we've had a hard time this last couple of years, but do we ever stop and think what it was really like for those men and women. Everyone of them was a hero.

Well, it's that time of year when we say goodbye to the old year and welcome in the new. We can but hope and pray that it can only get better. So, December goes out in hectic mode, Carols sung, Christingles lit and Christmas Eve services in all our churches. Certainly, a time to celebrate the coming of the Christ child.

But, during all this festivity just take a little while to think and pray for our clergy, Mark, Bridget and all who administer to us throughout each year. Thank You All.

At St. Mary's this Christmas we are planning a Crib Service At 4pm on Christmas Eve and Christmas Eve Communion and Worship at 7.30pm. Everyone is most welcome to any of our services

Wishing you all A Very Happy Christmas
and A Peaceful New Year.
From all at St. Mary's.



SURPRISE VIEW

As from February 2022 the magazine will be £1.00 per copy or £10.00 for the year.

Thank you all for your support.

You are invited to a Candlelit

CRIB SERVICE

On Christmas Eve at St. Mary's Farndale.

At 4.00 p.m.

This is especially suitable for younger children, but everyone is most welcome. It will last approximately 1/2 an hour and end with warm juice and biscuits.

If the children have a soft toy animal of the kind found in a stable, perhaps it could accompany them.

Please wear warm clothes and bring a torch or lantern to light your way. It would be good to arrive a few minutes early, so that we are ready to begin at 4 o'clock. See you there!

Shirley-Ann
Tel. 01751 433250.



ANGEL TIDINGS



The little boy was to be an angel in the Christmas play and his one line was: "Behold, I bring you good tidings." He asked what tidings were and his mother explained that the word meant news.

On the night of the play, the youngster had stage fright and, after a long silence, blurted out: "Hey, have I got news for you!"

NEWS FROM GILLAMOOR CE SCHOOL

Where God's love is sown, grown and taken home

As always, we have been busy with lots of activities both in and out of school. We had a Remembrance Service when the children read prayers and poems and Lucinda played her Cornet. Reverend Bridget did a reading based on the names on the War Memorial and the children's poppies which they made using the bases of plastic bottles were strung round the base of the Memorial.

We have been involved in two sports events recently, Cross Country at Lady Lumley's and Tag Rugby at Ryedale. The children tried hard and enjoyed themselves in both these sports competitions, representing their school extremely well. In Cross Country we had a range of great placings across all age groups.

In school the children have been enjoying their various clubs and in Eco Club they made edible rockets using strawberries, blueberries and grapes to celebrate Bonfire Night.

The children prepared Christmas Shoe Boxes containing presents for children who are not as fortunate as they are at Christmas time and these have been collected by Children In Distress to be distributed abroad.

We have had our first Stay and Play session for 2022 reception children, and this was lots of fun.

Soon it will be Children in Need and the children's Church Council group have prepared some great activities for the children to take part in.

The season of Advent is nearly upon us now, and we are looking forward to our Advent sessions with Reverend Mark.



MENZOWN NOVEMBER MEETING

Malcolm Brooke from Stamford Bridge presented an illustrated survey of R.A.F. 49 Squadron. The story begins in Dover in 1916. The aircraft were relatively slight in construction. Crashes were frequent. Disbanded in 1919, the squadron was reformed in 1936. Early work included the dropping of propaganda leaflets by the thousand and mines. The first planes were Hampdens, followed by Manchesters. Both of these posed operational challenges. The more familiar Lancaster bombers were welcomed. Their story is one of both success and losses: airman, missing or dead. 1943 was a particularly bad year. Mr. Brooke indicated how uncertain and precarious a flying mission could be. A change of wind direction was enough to tip the scales from success to loss. He showed photographs of long pipes, laid across Lincolnshire fields, to burn many gallons of precious fuel, to disperse fog, which disrupted so many flights to and from that county's many airfields. After the end of WW2, the Squadron flew many prisoners of war home and worked during the Mau Mau emergency in Kenya. The Squadron was finally disbanded in 1965. A vote of thanks was led by the webmaster David Harrison.



The **December 2021 MenZown** will be the members' Christmas Dinner at the King's Head YO62 6AT on Monday December 20th from 7pm. Seating will be limited because of *coronavirus* restrictions. It is possible that, by the time you read this, all available places may be gone. Last minute enquiries should be done via the website www.menzownkms.org, where you will find the *menu*, prices for two or three courses and how to pay. The deadline is **December 5th**. The Treasurer regrets that he will not be able to chase up members who wish to attend but whose payment has not been received. Entertainment will be given by Richard and Clare Haynes, who will come as guests of **MenZown**. A free raffle and table wine will be provided.

A full **MenZown** 2022 Programme of ten meetings plus a members' Christmas Dinner has been planned by the committee. Our thanks to Mrs. **Carol Bishop**, widow of the former treasurer Roy, who will prepare the membership/programme cards. The committee has decided to increase the annual membership fee to **£10**. It has not been increased for the last seven years. Members will also pay **£3** every time they attend a meeting at the King's Head. Those who watch *by*

zoom will not have to pay this, but only their annual fee. The £3 meeting charge has not increased in years. New members are invited. Your first visit is free. If you come again, you will have to start paying. Watching by *zoom*, without members' access to the website and a password, will not be possible.

Richard Sharpe.



LOVING,

ALMIGHTY GOD,

Thank you that You came into the darkness of this broken world on that first Christmas night, pouring in your Light, in the person of your Son, Jesus.

Lord, so much of our world seems dark, still. So many dreadful things we can't make sense of: the on-going pandemic, acts of violence and injustice against good people – innocent people, child poverty, employment problems, broken relationships ... so many difficulties. It's easy to feel overwhelmed.

Lord, help us to focus on you this Christmas. Open our eyes to see your bigger, eternal picture. Help us to hear afresh the Good News that nothing and no-one can ever extinguish your Light.

Jesus overcame the troubles of the world by His death and resurrection. Father may we re-connect with you, through Jesus, this Christmas and know the Love, the Joy and the Peace, which are your Christmas gifts to us, as we trust Him.

We pray in Jesus' wonderful name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

THE ELDERBERRY CLUB KIRKBYMOORSIDE. 1968 TO 2021.

The Elderberry Club was formed by a group of people from all the Churches in the town, it was the idea of Reverend Michael Wright the then vicar who saw the need for people to meet and socialise in their retirement.

The Club grew and thrived, out growing premises and moving around from Manor Close, to Church House, to the Methodist Church and finally back to Manor close.

Over the years with the help of volunteer, drivers, tea makers and good local support it continued. The last few years have seen a drop in membership the retired folk became more mobile spreading their wings and travelling more.

Sadly Covid, saw the beginning of the ending also due to the failing health of some of the committee members it was decided to close the Club and donate any monies remaining to charities in the town.

Open Invitation. On the 9th of December at 2pm in All Saints Church there will be a final meeting to discuss the distribution of the remaining funds, this will be followed by a short Thanksgiving Service giving thanks for all the members past and present, for organisers, helpers, tea makers, and drivers plus a very supportive community

Everyone who had any involvement with the Club in the past is welcome to come along, after the service, tea and cake will be served and time for a chat and remember the past.

June Cook Hon secretary.
Tel 01751-431160



LADIES FELLOWSHIP NOVEMBER MEETING

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend our November meeting but have been assured by ladies that it was a very entertaining evening. Edward Harrison is an old friend of Ladies Fellowship and has given us many interesting talks in the past. This time he apparently outdid himself talking about murder, mystery and mayhem. I can't help but think some went home looking warily over their shoulders! Thank you, Edward.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 8 December and will be at 7.00pm in the Library. **Please note our new starting time.** I believe we will be having a handicraft session along with some festive treats.

Carol Bancroft

YOUR GIFT OF LIFE — AT CHRISTMAS

Creaking on the staircase –
Noise outside my door –
A rustle in the chimney –
It's 'Santa-time' once more.
St Nicholas is on his way
With all his Christ-life gifts
To fire every child-light with
The loving Christ-mass kiss.

In some he'll place the gift of gold –
In others frankincense –
While others will be given myrrh –
All signs of God's presence.

For in each earthly crib or bed
In squalor, comfort, splendour –
The Christ child has been placed again
To call the world to wonder.

So come you kings, come one, come all,
Come shepherds to the cradle stall
And hear the angels sing a-new
The heavenly song they sing for you.

Your God is in your gift of life –
The life He gives with love –
So take the gift and use it,
Use it wisely, don't abuse it,
Let the Christ-life fire your spirit
That God in you may LIVE.

By Sam Doubtfire



The Rectory
St James the Least of All



My dear Nephew Darren

After all these years, I now understand why the non-conformist denominations sit down, rather than kneel, to say their prayers. That way, no decisions have to be taken over the number, size, shape, colour, material and design of kneelers in church.

Our present set was donated by a retired Major-General in 1899 to celebrate the Relief of Mafeking, and after more than a century of use by the pious and not-so-devout has taken its toll. Like certain members of our congregation, they now look a little worse for wear. Many have sprung leaks, so that when used, a jet of flocking is emitted all over the clothes of their neighbour, who then leaves Mattins looking like a Yeti.

Other kneelers have been occupied by grateful mice, who find them most congenial for nesting and who leave in high umbrage, creating chaos as Miss Mapp chases them down the aisle with her umbrella; that this provides her with the perfect excuse to leave before the sermon is, I am sure, entirely coincidental. The final straw came when my own, by some quirk in its design, now sounds like a whoopee cushion every time I kneel. It may cause the choirboys much amusement, but it lends nothing to the dignity of our worship.

So, we have decided to have a completely new set – and therein lies the problem. Who makes them? What will be the designs? Who co-ordinates the whole project? There is enough here to occupy the combined minds of our Church Council for the next Millennium and there will be enough scheming, manoeuvring, signing of non-aggression pacts and formation of tactical truces to make the United Nations look like amateurs. Unfortunately, we do not have the ecclesiastical equivalents of the blue berets to enforce peace.

The more patriotic members of the congregation have suggested they all show the Union Jack – presumably so they can be waved at appropriate moments in our services; one belligerent individual wants to see depictions of St Michael slaughtering the dragon, John the Baptist's head on a platter and other such tasteful scenes; on the other hand, dear Miss Timmins wants them all to depict doves or small fluffy creatures, which would make the church look more like pets corner.

Cutting through these vital issues, I have suggested that the entire congregation converts to Roman Catholicism.... and then we could stand for our prayers and

do without kneelers entirely.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and Happy New Year!

LOOKING BACK

**From 'The Church Window' The Parish magazine for
Kirkbymoorside with Gillamoor and Bransdale with Farndale – July
1956**

"Once upon a time"

Just lately there have been several searchings of the old registers by people looking up their ancestors – and in getting out the registers I found again the old church account book for Kirkbymoorside. There are some interesting things in it – the dedication of the new tower clock in 1894, further back, the balance sheet of the restoration of the church - it cost £1217 – not a great deal considering the work done, but of course labour was cheaper then? Gillamoor and Cockayne (which belonged to Kirkbymoorside parish then) were charged by the Ecclesiastical court at York in 1723 as follows: "the several churchwardens – as also their successors or ever hereafter shall bear defray and pay to the churchwardens of Kirkby Moorside and their successors for ever one third part of all manner of charges and expenses for the repairs of the nave of the said church and steeple of Kirkby Moorside : as also the same towards the repairs of the paving of or laying of the floor thereof : and also towards the glazing of the windows and repairs of the doors thereof"

I wonder if they did!

POP-UP DRESS AGENCY

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH KIRKBYMOORSIDE

SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER 2021



RAISED AN
AMAZING £310

Huge thanks to all who
supported

TWEENAGER'S SATISFACTION

According to its website, the Children's Society "fights for the hope and happiness of young people". It seeks to do this in part by assessing quality research of others, as well as undertaking research itself. Once a year, it produces *The Good Childhood Report*, and the most recent issue tracks trends over the last 10 years of the satisfaction that tweenagers (aged 10-15 years) have with life, friends, school and their appearance.

The survey found that many, perhaps a quarter, of children did not cope well with the changes forced on them by the pandemic. That will include some church children, and if the proportion is the same for them that would mean 160,000 tweenagers in English churches and 18,000 in Scottish churches.

However, while it is easy to suggest the downward life satisfaction trend is because of the pandemic, in reality the various trends have been broadly consistent over the last decade. Furthermore, some years the satisfaction value increases, though never simultaneously across all items. There is also a clear 'pecking order' in tweenagers' concerns with friends coming clearly at the top, followed by life as a whole, then school and then appearance.

A NEW BIBLE FOR ALL YOUR FAMILY

In partnership with Youth for Christ and several other family-focussed organisations, the Bible Society has created an edition of the Bible specifically designed for families.

The Good News Bible – Family Edition has plenty of features to help each member of the family engage with the Bible at their own pace.

The Bible Society says: "We know that doing Bible reading as a group can be difficult, so we have designed this new Bible to be a resource that encourages families to respond creatively to the text, whilst supporting individual preferences for engaging.

Based on the five themes of THINK, CHAT, DO, CREATE and WATCH, the Bible contains "plenty of interactions" to suit every member of a family.

The aim is to allow families "to journey through the Bible together", and in the process come closer to God, and to each other.

Find out more at: biblesociety.org.uk/gnbfamily

ADVENT

Waiting is not popular in our culture, when so much can be obtained simply at the press of a button! Advent, when we wait for the coming of Christmas, is also an opportunity to learn what it means to be waiting for the promised return of Jesus. He says: 'It's like a man going away: he leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. Therefore, keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back' (Mark 13:34-35).

We live between Jesus' first and second comings and this parable reminds us of the need to watch and wait, as disciples living faithfully for Him. It reminds us of two kinds of waiting: *passive* and active. Imagine you're at the railway station, awaiting the arrival of a train. On the platform a man is asleep, as he thinks there is plenty of time before the train arrives. He is passively waiting. There is also a small boy on the platform who is excited about the train coming. He can't sit still and constantly looks down the track to see if the train is coming. He is actively waiting, for he expects the train to arrive at any moment.

Advent gives us a choice: *how will we wait for Jesus' coming?* Passive waiting doesn't require much attention on our part. We can live our Christian life pre-occupied with our own concerns, rather than looking to God. However, active waiting involves an eager expectation, as we await Jesus' return or simply look to him coming to us today. All we want is to be found faithful as His disciples. There is nothing more important than being ready to meet our Master!



AMAZED!

Some people like surprises. The pleasant ones, anyway!

When we look at the Christmas story, it is full of surprises. Mary didn't expect to be chosen by God to give birth to His Son. Joseph was surprised and shocked that his fiancée was pregnant. The couple thought they would start married life together in Nazareth, but political circumstances forced them to go to Bethlehem and then into Egypt.

The Bethlehem shepherds were surprised and frightened by the heavenly choir and an angel with a marvellous message. Later, they rejoiced at seeing the Saviour – a new born baby in a manger.

The Wise Men were surprised to see a unique star, and so they followed it all the way to Jerusalem. They thought a royal birth would be in a city and in

Herod's Palace. They were surprised again, to be redirected to a remote village called Bethlehem. Herod too was surprised that a new king had come, and felt his position and authority were being threatened.

What is most surprising is that God had planned the coming of Jesus thousands of years before it happened. Prophets had told of His coming and their hearers were waiting for Him to appear. But still they were surprised when the Messiah came, for He did not come as a conquering hero but as a suffering Servant.

Jesus came to save people from their sins. He came to restore a broken relationship and bring His people to a glorious Home. The biggest surprise? It was also done for you and me!



CHRISTMAS RUSH

That time again, my trolley's full
Buying all the Christmas fare,
A turkey crown, a rib of beef,
Crisps and nibbles, lots to spare.

Christmas crackers and serviettes,
Paper for wrapping and cards to send,
Nuts and oranges, figs and dates
The list goes on, there seems no end.

In all this rush it's good to pause
And think about that special Day,
When shepherds watched and angels sang
As a Baby lay in a bed of hay.

By Megan Carter



WHEN SOMEONE YOU LOVED IS DEAD

Following on from last month, the other lessons that I learned following my wife's death were:

11. That it helps to talk about your loss and the person you have lost. Sharing helps you to put things together in your mind and is healing in itself.
12. Don't be afraid of pain, and don't anaesthetise it or avoid it – acknowledge it, face it, and you will heal more quickly.
13. That crying is normal, even for men, and it is a healing part of the grief process. Don't be afraid of this, even in public.
14. It may surprise you, to discover which people draw near to you in your grief, and who steps away. Appreciate those who come closer, without judging those who hold back.
15. Not everything people say to you about grief and your response will be helpful. Decide for yourself what is important for you, and let the rest go.
16. That grief may expose some of your inner fault-lines, but don't be afraid of this – learning more about yourself is a gift that comes with grieving.
17. No-one grieves perfectly. Following the death of your loved one, you will make mistakes, bad choices, and errors of judgment. This is normal, so forgive yourself.
18. That hope will rise again within you. The human spirit, in combination with God's grace, has its own remarkable resilience.
19. Don't be afraid to live again. God has a good purpose for you, and a plan for your life.
20. That your faith is an asset, not a liability. When you are tempted to be angry with God, remember that He is an ever-present help in time of need. Lean on Him.
21. That you have a part to play in your grief journey, so don't be passive and allow it to overwhelm you – begin to do what you can to rebuild your life.



A CHRISTMAS GIFT

It's not easy getting the right Christmas present for others, especially in these uncertain times. However, the Magi's gifts were entirely appropriate and help us to understand God's gift of Jesus to us.

'On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.' (Matt 2:11). These were the expensive kind of gifts that visitors from the east would bring: gold, frankincense (a plant gum resin used in incense) and myrrh (another resin used in perfumes).

Who is He?

Gold is a gift for a king. In Jesus, we see a king in baby clothes. The worship of the wise men was costly, not only in terms of their gifts but for their lives.

Why did He come?

Frankincense was used by the priests in the temple in offering sacrifices. Jesus, as the ultimate priest, is the one who came to bring God and man together. He could do this because He is both divine and human.

What did it cost Him?

Myrrh was used to embalm the dead. This gift reminds us that the baby of Bethlehem would die on the cross to give His life for us. The wood of the crib and the cross are the same wood!

What are we going to offer Him this Christmas?

Jesus is *Christ*, the king who comes to rule our lives; He's Lord, the One who knows what it's like to be human as well as divine; and He's Saviour, who enables us to be friends of God.

"At Christmas time, when we receive presents that we don't really need, God offers us a gift we cannot do without." - *J John*



BE KIND TO YOUR NEIGHBOUR

This Christmas, why not make an extra effort to be kind to your neighbours? It seems that neighbourly distrust has grown more than fivefold since the summer of 2020, with one in five of us now saying that relations in our community have soured.

On the plus side, there are still 25 per cent of us who report greater trust in our neighbourhoods. But on the debit side, now 22 per cent of us, up from just four per cent, have reported a deterioration.

The research was carried out at University College London (UCL), who found that one in five of us now feel less cohesive with our neighbours, feeling that we have fewer shared values with them.

As one researcher put it, “Much has changed over the last 18 months, with limits to our freedom, how we interact with other, and changes to how we shop and travel. Perhaps these restrictions have caused some to feel less satisfied with life in their community.”

Proverbs 11:12 advises: ‘Whoever derides their neighbour has no sense, but the one who has understanding holds their tongue.’ Proverbs 27:10 advises: ‘Do not go to your relative’s house when disaster strikes you— better a neighbour nearby than a relative far away.’



HOW MANY

ENOUGH?

TREES ARE

How many Christmas trees will you have this year? Last year many bored families, stuck at home during the festive season, decided to branch out and set up two or more Christmas trees – often one in a pot for the front of the house, and a bigger one inside.

It seems that two trees helped people to feel more festive. According to John Lewis and Waitrose, more than 268,000 feet of Christmas trees were purchased last Christmas – equivalent to nine times the height of Mount Everest. That takes a lot of fairy lights and baubles!

BATTLE OF THE THERMOSTAT

If you and your partner have rows about how hot the house should be this Christmas, bear this in mind: women really do need the heat turned up more than men do. Recent research has found that the difference in the sexes also applies to other species, from mammals to birds.

As one scientist at Tel Aviv's University's College of Zoology said, "among many species of birds and mammals, females prefer a warmer environment, and at times these preferences cause segregation between the sexes. In the human realm, this difference in thermal sensation did not come about so that we could argue with our partners over the heating, but rather the opposite: it is meant to make the couple take distance from each other so that each individual can enjoy some peace and quiet."



DWINDLING WILDLIFE IN BRITAIN

Be kind to the wildlife in your garden – what little of it remains. The UK is one of the world's most nature-depleted countries, and it may not even have enough biodiversity – variety of plant and animal life – to prevent an ecological meltdown.

That is the finding of new data by the Natural History Museum. It says that the UK has an average of only 53 per cent of its natural biodiversity left, well below the global average of 75 per cent.

Worldwide, scientists warn that the variety of plant and animal life of earth is dwindling fast. It will have a serious impact on human life: "those systems have lost enough to mean that we have to be careful about relying on them functioning in the way that we need them to."

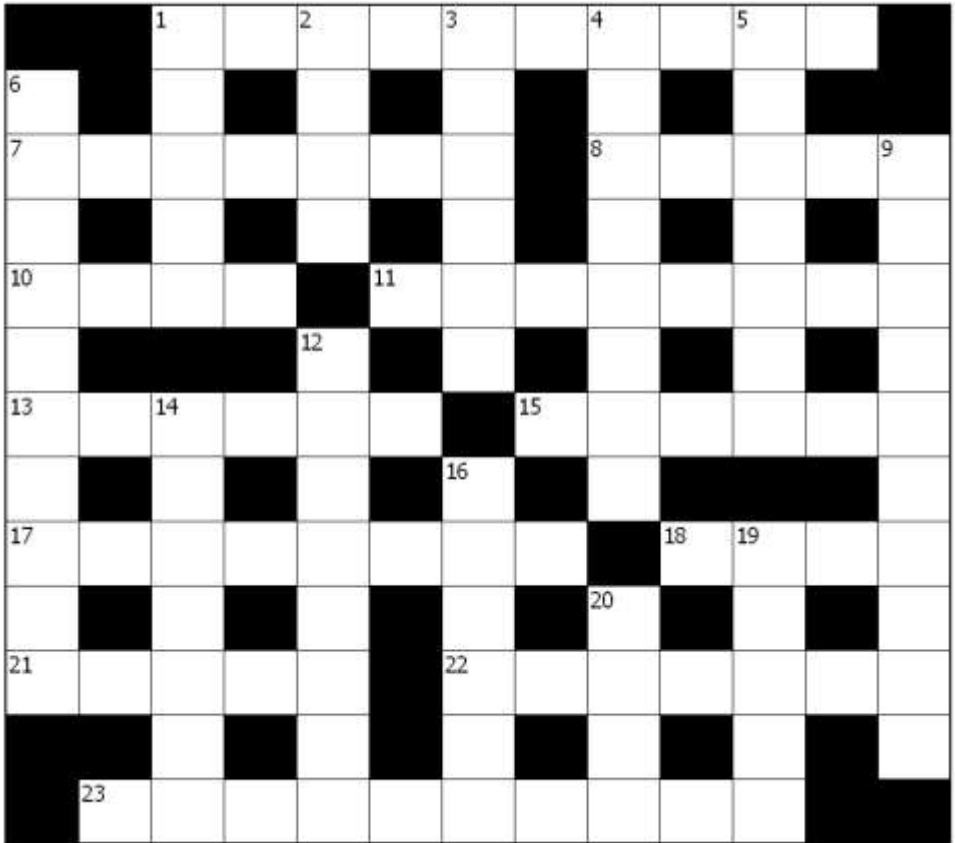
DECEMBER'S CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Provisional meeting place of God and the Jews (Exodus 25:9) (10)
- 7 David's third son, killed when his head got caught in a tree during a battle with his father (2 Samuel 18:14-15) (7)
- 8 They ruled much of the west coast of South America in the 15th and early 16th centuries (5)
- 10 Small deer of European and Asian extraction (4)
- 11 Seized control of (Numbers 21:25) (8)
- 13 Terror (Luke 24:5) (6)
- 15 First World War heroine shot by the Germans in Brussels, Nurse Edith ____ (6)
- 17 Stormy (8)
- 18 A bitter variety of this, together with lamb and unleavened bread, was the Passover menu for anyone 'unclean' (Numbers 9:11) (4)
- 21 Arson (anag.) (5)
- 22 How John Newton described God's grace in his well-known hymn (7)
- 23 Habitation (Isaiah 27:10) (10)

Down

- 1 '____ and see that the Lord is good' (Psalm 34:8) (5)
- 2 'The wicked man flees though no one pursues, but the righteous are as ____ as a lion' (Proverbs 28:1) (4)
- 3 One of the exiles, a descendant of Parosh, who married a foreign woman (Ezra 10:25) (6)
- 4 He escaped from Nob when Saul killed the rest of his family and joined David (1 Samuel 22:19-20) (8)
- 5 City and lake in Central Switzerland (7)
- 6 'Offer your bodies as living _____, holy and pleasing to God' (Romans 12:1) (10)
- 9 Pouches carried by horses (Genesis 49:14) (10)
- 12 One who accepts government by God (8)
- 14 Aromatic substance commonly used in Jewish ritual (Exodus 30:1) (7)
- 16 He asked Jesus, 'What is truth?' (John 18:38) (6)
- 19 Are (Romans 13:1) (5)
- 20 'You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will ____ his people from their sins' (Matthew 1:21) (4)



NOVEMBER'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Charioteers. 9, Immoral. 10, Cairo. 11, SAE. 13, Inns. 16, Firm. 17, Accuse. 18, East. 20, Ogam. 21, Judith. 22, Seba. 23, Msgr. 25, Den. 28, Inane. 29, Entreat. 30, Chrysoprase.

DOWN: 2, Human. 3, Rare. 4, Oils. 5, Ecce. 6, Raising. 7, Citizenship. 8, Commemorate. 12, Assail. 14, Sat. 15, Scouse. 19, Sabbath. 20, Ohm. 24, Seeds. 25, Deny. 26, Nero. 27, Star.

THE UNITED CHARITIES TRUST OF KIRKBYMOORSIDE

The aim of the charity is to make small financial grants to help the sick and elderly of Kirkbymoorside in times of need.

If you know of anyone needing a little help please contact one of the following trustees:

Mark Brosnan	431452
Tony Clark	431531
June Cook	431160
Stephanie Hickman	433337
Nigel Richardson	432221
Lesley Temple	431237
Paul Young	07554 053368.



USED ITEMS BEING COLLECTED FOR CHARITIES

Used Postage stamps are being collected for the Leprosy Mission (there is a box at the rear of All Saints')

Bras which are dead, dying, unloved or downright uncomfortable raise funds for breast cancer research and go to help support small businesses in countries such as Togo, Ghana, Kenya and other African countries where local family businesses give them a new lease of life keeping themselves out of poverty and providing bras for local women in areas where they are too expensive to make new locally. A ton of bras raises £700 for research.

Any items left at the back of All Saints' and will be passed on

Anne Warriner 01751 432915 or
e-mail john.warriner252@btinternet.com

ALL SAINTS' 100 CLUB

The purpose of the 100 club is to raise much needed funds for the upkeep of All Saints' Church and Churchyard.

Joining the 100 Club is a fun way of supporting your Church. By paying £5 per month either by standing order, cheque or cash. You will be allotted a number which will go into the bag for the monthly prize draw. Application forms can be obtained from the Parish Office

Prize money of 30% of the total contributions for the month will be shared between 1st& 2nd lucky winners. 75% & 25% each. Winners' names will be published on the Church notice board.

The remainder of the money will help the Church to carry out the repair and maintenance of the Church and Churchyard.

RESULTS OF THE DRAW MADE ON 4TH NOVEMBER 2021

Total stake £190.00 Total prize money £57.00

First prize	No 4 L&M Goslin	£42.75
Second prize	No 1 JC&V Bulidon	£14.25

DECEMBER'S CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

	Chancel/ Belfry	Nave	Lady Chapel
6 th	Mrs K Robson	Mrs M Rolph	Mrs J Binns
20 th	Mrs A Potter Mrs J Cook	Mrs D Crossland	Mrs A Ward

**WISHING YOU ALL A PEACFUL CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR 2022**

JANUARY'S CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

	Chancel/ Belfry	Nave	Lady Chapel
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MONDAY 14 JANUARY

Please note articles received after the deadline date might not
go in the magazine until the following month